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10981712-2

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## RESPONSE

Address to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket

10981712-2

Confirmation No.

4359

First Named Inventor

Michael P. Caren

Application Number

09/819,923

Filing Date

03/26/2001

Group Art Unit

1637

Examiner Name

Jeffrey Siew

Title

Method of Performing  
Array-Based  
Hybridization Assays  
Using Thermal Inkjet  
Deposition of Sample  
Fluids

RECEIVED

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Dear Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated April 8, 2002, for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before June 8, 2002. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. A clean copy of the amended claims appears below with the amended version attached on a document marked "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

## AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

22. (Amended) A method for depositing a quantity of fluid containing a nucleic acid, on a substrate surface having a plurality of binding agents stably associated therewith, said method comprising:

positioning a thermal inkjet head filled with said nucleic acid containing fluid in opposing relation to said substrate surface; and

actuating said thermal inkjet head in a manner sufficient to expel said quantity of fluid onto said substrate surface to deposit said quantity of fluid on said substrate surface, wherein nucleic acids present in said deposited fluid are capable of hybridizing to their complement.

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